

United States Department of Agriculture

Marketing and Regulatory Programs Please Note:

New vendors and subcontractors must supply all required paperwork (Appendix 1, Financial Statement, and 3 Reference Letters), and must register in the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA). In addition, <u>all</u> Vendors must also be registered in the CCR, within 48 hours after bid opening or your company may be considered non-responsive.

Agricultural Marketing Service

FV-311

Fruit and Vegetable Programs

Washington, DC 20250

Date Issued: September 13, 2005

Fresh Apples, Announcement FV-311, Invitation 011

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers to sell fresh fruit as indicated below and per the Announcement for use in needy family programs and other domestic food assistance programs. Offers are due by 1 p.m., Central Time, Thursday, September 15, 2005. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, Monday, September 19, 2005. Deliveries are to be made from September 26, 2005, through October 19, 2005.

Offers are invited from the trade for 9,240 cases of fresh apples in 37/40 lb. cartons to a shipping container.

This invitation is to provide USDA commodities to areas affected by Hurricane Katrina, and to replace commodities previously diverted to those areas. Since there is a great need to deliver to destinations on the gulf coast as soon as possible, delivery timeframes on this invitation will begin immediately. If you are unable to meet the early delivery periods, do not bid on them. Inspection issues resulting from the need to deliver product quickly will be handled by Commodity Procurement Branch on a cases by case basis. Please note, is the vendor's responsibility to have timely deliveries and to deliver good quality and condition of the product.

No offer will be made to 8(a) vendors on this invitation.

All invitations with orders for the state of New York, must have the pack date stamped on the outside of each carton, The pack date should be annotated as per the following example: (05/01/2003). Orders for the state of New York requiring the special marking will be indicated by (**). This applies to New York orders "Only," if and when they appear on an invitation.

Note: Effective August 1, 2005, Contractors are required to submit Annual Representations and Certifications via the Online Representation and Certifications Application (ORCA), a part of Business Partner Network (BPN). The internet address for registering in ORCA is http://orca.bpn.gov. The representations and certifications are effective until one year from the date of submission or update to ORCA. A revised abbreviated Appendix 1 dated August 2005 will be required for contractors registering via the ORCA system. A notice



to the trade regarding this requirement was issued on June 28, 2005 at http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/cp/tradenotices.htm

However, Contractors who have previously (prior to August 1, 2005) submitted the Appendix 1 for calendar year 2005 will be relieved from the ORCA online registration until the expiration of their Appendix 1.

Bids must be submitted electronically via the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES) on the Internet. Offerors who submit bids using other than DEBES, will be deemed non-responsive. Offeror must be assigned a Logon ID by USDA to access the site. The Internet address is: http://pcsd.usda.gov/debes which translates into a connection of https://pcsd.usda.gov/debes which translates into a connection of https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe? Once connected, follow the online procedures. A 'HELP' button provides detailed instructions for using the system or call 202-720-4517 for assistance.

Bidders are cautioned to bid only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver in accordance with the contract. Inquiries about Announcement FV-311, Appendix-1, the Commodity Specification for Fresh Fruit dated April 2004, or this Invitation should be directed to the Contracting Officer, USDA/AMS/Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Commodity Procurement Branch STOP 0239, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, telephone (202) 720-4517. An electronic version of this invitation can be obtained through the World Wide Web via the Commodity Procurement Home Page at http://www.ams.usda.gov/cp.

Purchases will be made on a delivered basis, subject to Announcement FV-311, to the listed locations. Delivery by trucks or railcars is optional to the contractor, except for those destination(s) which specify delivery by truck only or rail only.

Split shipments are indicated by single asterisk.

ANNOUNCEMENT : FV311 PREFERENCE INVITATION : 011 COMM GROUP : 34 FRUIT, FRESH CODES: B -BRAEBURN F -FUJI G -GALA RD-RED DELICIOUS GD-GOLDEN DELICI GS-GRANNY SMITH M -MCINTOSH COMM TYPE : 10 APPLES, FRESH PACK SIZE : 10 37/40 LB CARTON DESTINATION TRANS QUANTITY PRICE PER CITY ST RESTR DELIVERY PERIOD 09/26/05 - 09/28/05 5,544 AL TRUCK ONLY B F. 001 MOBILE DELIVERY PERIOD 10/17/05 - 10/19/05 002 ROCKY HILL CT TRUCK ONLY 924 RD GD 003 MILLEDGEVILLE GA TRUCK ONLY 004 NEWPORT MN 924 RD NV TRUCK ONLY 005 LAS VEGAS 462 RD GD M RENO NV TRUCK ONLY 462 TOTAL QUANTITY FOR COMMODITY TYPE 9,240 TOTAL QUANTITY FOR INVITATION 9,240

Michelle Warren Contracting Officer

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.